

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NEA-06 L-01 SP-02 PRS-01

NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 EA-06 AF-04 CU-02 RSC-01

SSO-00 ARA-06 IOE-00 INRE-00 /065 W

----- 123106

O 051837Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3884

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 26122

LIMDIS

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE ARAB RESOLUTION PROPOSING

SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL: VIEWS OF KEY ARAB

REPS.

REF: STATE 242627

AMEMBASSY ROME FOR DR. MOREY, DEPUTY ASST. SEC. FOR IO:

AMEMBASSY CAIRO FOR ATHERTON

1. CHAIRMAN US DEL AND US DEL MEMBER FROM DEPARTMENT
HAVE JUST FINISHED ROUND OF IN-DEPTH TALKS WITH KEY
ARAB REPS., AMBASSADOR AHMED EL-WAKIL, EGYPTIAN PERM
DEL. TO UNESCO; MIN. AHMED DERRADJI, DEPUTY ALGERIAN
PERM DEL. TO UNESCO; AND AMBASSADOR ABU-IZZEDDIN,
LEBANESE PERM DEL. TO UNESCO. THESE REPS, BY WIDE
AGREEMENT HERE, ARE PRIME OPINION MOVERS AND INFLU-
ENCERS IN ARAB GROUP. WAKIL GENERALLY CONSIDERED AS
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SENIOR ARAB SPOKESMAN AND DERRADJI AS MAIN SPOKES-

MAN FOR ARAB MILITANTS. ABU-IZZEDDIN IS
MODERATE, INCLINED TO BE HELPFUL, BUT MUST RESPECT
CONSENSUS ARAB POSITION.

2. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THESE TALKS (TWO HOURS WITH
EGYPTIAN MORNING OF NOV. 5, L L/2 HOUR WITH ALGERIAN
TODAY AT NOON, AND, INTERMITTENTLY ENTIRE DAY OF NOV. 4
BY CHAIRMAN US DEL WITH LEBANESE, WAS TO PROVIDE THEM
WITH FULLEST BACKGROUND AND OTHER ESSENTIAL INFORMATION
ON IMPACT OF RAMIFICATIONS, IN US CONGRESS, PUBLIC AND
EXECUTIVE, IF ARAB RESOLUTION IN PRESENT FORM, I.E. WITH
SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL IS PASSED. SECOND OBJECTIVE
WAS TO EXPLORE WITH THESE KEY ARABS POSSIBLE ROOM FOR
MANEUVERING, I.E. A SOLUTION ELIMINATING THE SANCTIONS
CLAUSE FROM THE ARAB DR.

3. US DEL MEMBER STRESSED FOLLOWING POINTS TO EGYPTIANS
AND ALGERIANS:

(A) US LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES AND FACT THAT US CON-
STITUTIONAL PROCEDURES REQUIRE CONGRESS TO APPROVE ALL
FUNDING OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANI-
ZATIONS. ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT WHILE USG WAS NOT
REPEAT NOT TAKING ANY POSITION AFFECTING US CONTRIBU-
TIONS TO UNESCO, US CONGRESSIONAL CONTROL OF PURSE
STRINGS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WAS FACT OF
AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE WHICH ARABS MUST REALIZE..

(B) CONSIDERABLE US EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE ISRAEL TO MAKE
SOME CONCILIATORY GESTURE TO PLACATE AND RECOGNIZE
INTENSITY OF ARAB/MOSLEM SENTIMENTSS RE MOSLEM HOLY SITES
IN JERUSALEM.

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(C) FACT THAT ARAB RESOLUTION WOULD ADD YET ANOTHER COMPLICATION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ARDUOUS TASK IN PURSUIT OF PROGRESS IN MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

(D) ADVERSE IMPACT WHICH ARAB-GENERATED UNESCO SANCTIONS WOULD HAVE ON GENERAL US-ARAB RELATIONS.

4. ARAB REPS APPEARED APPRECIATIVE OF DETAILED BRIEFING ON DOMESTIC US LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES AND CLARIFICATION THAT USG NOT, REPEAT NOT ADVOCATING ANY CHANGE IN US CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO. THEY SAID LATTER POINT ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE ARABS WOULD NOT, REPEAT NOT COOPERATE UNDER THREAT OF USG REDUCTION OR CUTOFF IN CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO. (ALGERIAN REP REVEALED THIS POSSIBILITY HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY ARAB GROUP, ADDING WITH DEAD SERIOUSNESS THAT IF USG TOOK SUCH ACTION, ARAB OIL STATES WERE WILLING TO MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE.)

5. OTHER MAIN IMPRESSIONS OF TALKS WITH ARAB REPS:
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(A) MONUMENTS ISSUE IS IMPORTANT, AND DEEPLY FELT BY ARABS, BUT IN AN IMPORTANT SENSE, THIS ISSUE IS THE FACADE COVERING THE HARD CORE POLITICAL PROBLEM-- WHO HAS SOVEREIGNTY OVER JERUSALEM. ISRAELIS, (AND THIS POINT COMES OUT FORCEFULLY FROM OUR TALK WITH BAR YAAKOV) INSIST ON CONTINUING EXCAVATIONS AS POLITICAL PROOF THEY ARE IN JERUSALEM TO STAY. ARABS, WITH EQUAL INSISTENCE, WANT ISRAELIS TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM EXCAVATIONS IN ORDER TO STRESS FACT THAT PART OF JERUSALEM IS AND WILL REMAIN ARAB TERRITORY.

(B) ARABS ARE BITTERLY RESENTFUL OVER WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE A DELIBERATE AND SYSTEMATIC FLOUTING BY

ISRAEL OF UNESCO RESOLUTIONS AND PROVISIONS OF 1954
HAGUE CONVENTION FOR PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY
IN EVENT OF ARMED CONFLICT. BOTH EGYPTIAN AND ALGERIAN
MAINTAINED ARABS HAD HAD ENOUGH OF SIMPLY PILING
ONE RESOLUTION ON TOP OF ANOTHER, WITHOUT ANY CORRECTIVE
ACTION BY ISRAEL.

(C) ALGERIAN REP STRESSED THAT ARAB RESOLUTION DOES
NOT REPEAT NOT AIM AT EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM UNESCO,
NOR EVEN A CESSATION OF UNESCO ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL,
BUT RATHER A SUSPENSION OF UNESCO AID UNTIL SUCH TIME
AS ISRAEL SHOWS ITSELF TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH UNESCO
RESOLUTIONS.

(D) ARABS THINK IT NOW TOO LATE IN GAME AND THAT ARAB
THINKING IS NOW SET TOO HARD TO MAKE ANY MAJOR CHANGES
IN RESOLUTION. ALGERIAN WAS VERY HARD-NOSED ON THIS;
EGYPTIAN WAS MUCH MORE FLEXIBLE, BUT SAID HE WAS UNDER
EXTREME PRESSURES OF ARAB RADICALS, LOCAL PLO, AND TIME.
EGYPTIAN DID EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, THAT HE AND OTHER ARABS
WOULD ATTRIBUTE GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PROPOSAL FOR A
PERMANENT, OFFICIAL UNESCO PRESENCE IN JERUSALEM TO
ASSURE CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF MONUMENTS ISSUE. ALSO,
EGYPTIANS AND ALGERIANS STRESSED VITAL IMPORTANCE OF
ISRAELIS MAKING SOME STATEMENT SHOWING THAT THEY RECOG-
NIZE DEPTH OF ARAB CONCERN WITH JERUSALEM MONUMENTS
ISSUE.

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6. THROUGHOUT TALKS, US DELOFF REPEATEDLY STRESSED
DAMAGE TO BOTH US ABILITY TO SUPPORT UNESCO AND TO
ARAB-US RELATIONSHIPS IF RESOLUTION PASSES UNAMENDED.

7. COMMENT: EGYPTIAN, ALGERIAN AND LEBANESE APPEARED
WELCOME THIS EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH US.
THEY WERE CAREFUL NOT TO MAKE ANY PROMISES OR HINT OF

CONCESSIONS, BUT WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT ALL THREE
WILL CARRY EXTENT OF US CONCERN TO THEIR OTHER ARAB
COLLEAGUES. BEST RESULT WOULD BE FOR ARAB WILLINGNESS
TO SETTLE FOR SOME COMPROMISE DR, SUCH AS NOW BEING
FLOATED BY AFRICANS. WORST RESULT WOULD BE PASSAGE OF
CURRENT RESOLUTION AS IS, BUT AT LEAST KEY RESPONSIBLE
ARAB REPS NOW KNOW WHAT FULL RAMIFICATIONS MIGHT BE.

8. AT DEPT'S DISCRETION, REQUEST THIS TEL BE PASSED
ALSO TO ALGERS AND BEIRUT.
STONE

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